

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Paper 2 Listening

May/June 2026

Approximately 50 minutes (including 6 minutes' transfer time)

249311351*

You will need: Multiple choice answer sheet
Soft clean eraser
Soft pencil (type B or HB is recommended)

- There are **40** questions on this paper. Answer **all** questions.
- You will have 6 minutes to transfer your answers from the question paper onto the multiple choice answer sheet.
- Follow the instructions on the multiple choice answer sheet. Shade **one** letter only for Questions 1 to 40.
- Write in soft pencil.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number on the multiple choice answer sheet in the spaces provided unless this has been done for you.
- Do **not** use correction fluid or tape.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

- The total mark for this paper is 40.
- Each correct answer will score one mark.
- Any rough working should be done on this question paper.

This document has **16** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

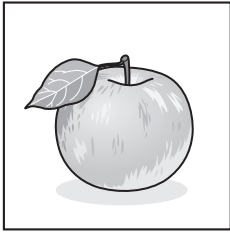
Exercise 1

You will hear eight short recordings. For each question, choose the correct answer, **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**, and put a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

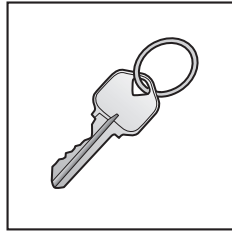
You will hear each recording twice.

Question 1

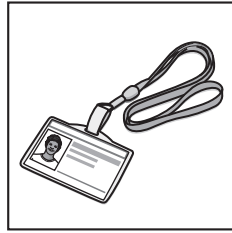
What has the boy forgotten to bring?



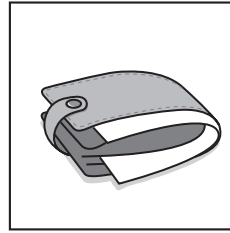
A

☐


B

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C

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D

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[1]

Question 2

What do the friends agree to do together on Saturday?



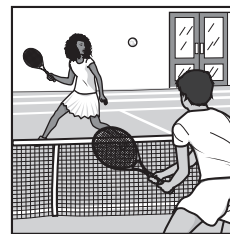
A

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B

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C

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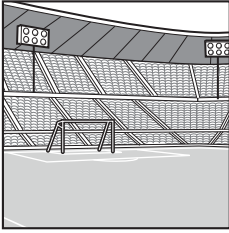
D

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Question 3

Where does the woman want to go instead of the theatre?



A

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B

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C

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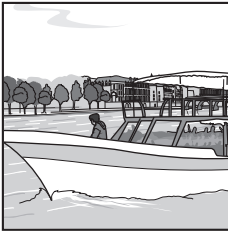

D

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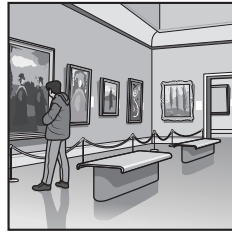
[1]

Question 4

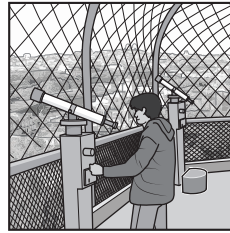
What did the boy enjoy doing most in Paris?



A

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B

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C

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D

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[1]

Question 5

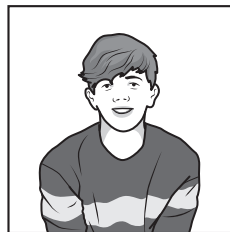
Who told the girl about the music festival?



A

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B

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C

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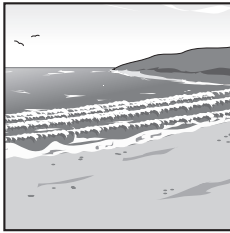

D

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Question 6

Where is the boy going with his class?



A

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B

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C

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D

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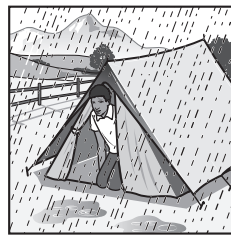
[1]

Question 7

What problem did the man have while he was camping?



A

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B

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C

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D

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Question 8

How does the girl offer to help with the party preparations?



A

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B

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C

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Exercise 2

You will hear five short recordings. For each question, choose the correct answer, **A**, **B** or **C**, and put a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

You will hear each recording twice.

You will hear a girl telling a friend about performing in a play.

Question 9

How did the girl feel during her performance?

- A** confused by another actor's behaviour
- B** frightened of forgetting what to say
- C** surprised how noisy the audience were

[1]

Question 10

What would the girl like to perform in next?

- A** a crime drama
- B** a musical
- C** a comedy

[1]

You will hear a boy leaving a message for a friend about a new sports centre.

Question 11

What does the boy like most about the sports centre?

- A** the range of activities
- B** the low cost of admission
- C** the helpfulness of the staff

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Question 12

What would the boy like his friend to do?

- A** book a tennis court for them
- B** provide some tennis coaching
- C** advise him on tennis equipment

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[1]

You will hear two friends talking about a new science documentary series.

Question 13

The friends agree that the documentary

- A** has got a great presenter.
- B** covers some interesting topics.
- C** will be useful for some schoolwork.

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Question 14

What does the girl say about the music in the documentary?

- A** It goes well with the action.
- B** It is similar to other programmes.
- C** It can sometimes be annoying.

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You will hear a man telling a friend about a song he's writing.

Question 15

What is the song about?

A a film he saw

B a place he visited

C someone he met

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Question 16

Why is it taking so long for the man to write the song?

A He feels very tired at the moment.

B He has too many other things to do.

C He keeps being interrupted.

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You will hear a girl leaving a message about her new part-time job.

Question 17

What does the girl say is the biggest benefit of the job?

- A** being given a staff discount
- B** receiving a free meal during each shift
- C** getting a bonus for each sale she makes

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Question 18

What does the girl say about her manager?

- A** He tells some funny stories.
- B** He's good at understanding customers.
- C** He is more stylish than he thinks.

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Exercise 3

You will hear a geography student called Emma giving a class presentation about the city of Ushuaia, in southern Argentina. For each question, choose the correct answer, **A**, **B** or **C**, and put a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

You will hear the talk twice.

Now look at Questions **19–26**.

The city of Ushuaia

Question 19

The name Ushuaia roughly translates as ...

- A** between two oceans.
B city at the end of the world.
C deep bay.

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Question 20

Emma says that the climate in Ushuaia is surprisingly ...

- A** windy.
B mild.
C wet.

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Question 21

The first people settled in Ushuaia around ... years ago.

- A** 6 000
B 10 000
C 15 000

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Question 22

In the late nineteenth century, a ... was established in the middle of Ushuaia.

- A** prison
B gold mine
C port

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Question 23

Fishing, oil and ... are the three main industries in Ushuaia.

A electronics

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B farming

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C tourism

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Question 24

A small railway into Ushuaia was originally used to transport ...

A wood.

☐

B people.

☐

C stone.

☐

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Question 25

When visiting Ushuaia, Emma was surprised by ...

A how many stars were visible.

☐

B how dark it was at night.

☐

C how long the daytime was.

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Question 26

Emma was most impressed by how ... on her visit to Ushuaia.

A varied the wildlife was

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B friendly the people were

☐

C unusual the architecture was

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Exercise 4

You will hear six people talking about the book they're currently reading.

For Questions **27–32**, choose from the list (**A–H**) which idea each speaker expresses. Write the correct letter (**A–H**) on the answer line. Use each letter only once. There are two extra letters which you do **not** need to use.

You will hear the recordings twice.

Now read statements **A–H**.

A It's not as action-packed as I was expecting.

B The main characters are all easy to like.

C It's inspiring me to read the author's other work.

D I find the plot quite hard to follow.

E What happens in it is predictable.

F It's extremely easy to read.

G One of the characters reminds me of someone I know.

H It's unlike any other book I've read.

Question 27	Speaker 1		[1]
Question 28	Speaker 2		[1]
Question 29	Speaker 3		[1]
Question 30	Speaker 4		[1]
Question 31	Speaker 5		[1]
Question 32	Speaker 6		[1]

Exercise 5

You will hear an interview with Scott, a sound engineer who helps create the perfect sound for musicians. For each question, choose the correct answer, **A**, **B** or **C**, and put a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

You will hear the interview twice.

Now look at Questions **33–40**.

Question 33

What made Scott want to become a sound engineer?

A seeing a programme about one

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B reading an article about one

☐

C watching one at work

☐

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Question 34

What does Scott say about the sound engineering course he did?

A It provided some useful opportunities to gain experience.

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B Some of the information taught on it was out of date.

☐

C The tutors on it had lots of music industry knowledge.

☐

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Question 35

How did Scott feel at the first concert he worked at?

A certain the band would be happy with the sound

☐

B concerned the sound was too loud for the audience

☐

C astonished by how clear the sound was in the venue

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Question 36

What does Scott find most enjoyable about working in recording studios?

A watching the musicians' reactions to the finished songs

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B getting the most out of the musicians' equipment

☐

C socialising with the musicians

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[1]

Question 37

What does Scott suggest about a singer called Fran?

- A** She's more talented than she realises.
- B** She'd be successful if she practised more.
- C** She should put more of her music on the internet.

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Question 38

Scott says that the most challenging aspect of his job is

- A** working irregular hours.
- B** meeting the recording deadlines.
- C** pleasing artists' record labels.

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Question 39

Scott says he has developed a reputation for

- A** making each band that he records sound unique.
- B** using surprising recording methods with bands.
- C** listening carefully to what bands want.

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Question 40

What would Scott most like to do in the future?

- A** write and record his own music
- B** act as manager for a rock band
- C** organise a large music festival

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